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**ESTABLISHMENT OF A  
PERMANENT CAMPUS FOR THE  
SEAFARERS TRAINING CENTER,  
OF THE  
PAUL HALL INSTITUTE  
FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT,  
IN KALAELOA, HAWAII**

Prepared by Neil Dietz  
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Honolulu, Hawaii

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## Introduction

The purpose of this project is to create a permanent campus for a maritime fire training and safety school to be located in Kalaeloa, Hawaii (the former Barber's Point Naval Air Station). The facility is located on Hawaii Army National Guard property licensed for use by the Seafarers Training Center, as the Hawaii campus of the Paul Hall Institute for Human Development. The facility provides needed training to U.S. merchant mariners in Hawaii and the Pacific region to meet the specialized training requirements of civilian seafarers as required by the U.S. Coast Guard, the Department of Defense, and maritime employers.

In consultation with the Seafarers International Union, the Hawaii National Guard, maritime employers (including contractors for the Department of Defense), the U.S. Coast Guard, and federal, state and local emergency response agencies, a planning process determined the types of courses and the infrastructure to support those courses that are needed by civilian seafarers operating on vessels throughout Hawaii and the greater Pacific region.

An initial phase of temporary operation was undertaken beginning in October 2000 to provide a practical training experience component. In the three years of operation in temporary facilities, the Seafarers Training Center has provided practical maritime education to more than 1,300 seafarers in Basic Safety Training, Basic Fire Fighting, First Aid, and CPR. The facilities and staff have met or exceeded U. S. Coast Guard training specifications. Hawaii-based training staff was recruited. Phase 1 clearly demonstrated the practicality and efficiency of Hawaii-based training. Once the courses were identified, the infrastructure to teach those courses was catalogued. The final result of this process was the identification of a needed facility to house staging and support spaces, final siting, the estimated cost of construction, required equipment and other costs associated with the successful completion of the next phase project, a permanent campus.

The process consists of development in three phases:

PHASE 1: creation and operation of a temporary training facility. The facility operates as a "day school" only. No project funds were used for this phase of development.

PHASE 2: creation and operation of an expanded permanent Seafarers Training Center. The curriculum and student base will be expanded. Housing, transportation and food services will become available. Project funds will be used for this phase of development.

PHASE 3: expansion of required training infrastructure and full operation of the Seafarers Training Center. Project funds utilized in Phase 2 provide the basic facilities for this later development.



*Students learn the functions and fundamentals of personal protective gear before engaging in live-burn fire fighting exercises.*

## History of the Site

The U.S. Navy occupied Barber's Point Naval Air Station (BPNAS) from 1941 until its closure in July 1999 that resulted from the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Act. The



of these existing buildings were project contributions by the Hawaii Army National Guard, a project partner as identified in the initial grant proposal. Staff of the Seafarers' Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship designed and completed the dormitory renovations and the majority of Building 1874 renovations at no cost to the project for time or labor.

## **Project Goals:**

The Seafarers Training Center has created a realistic environment for maritime safety training that presents the challenges of actual shipboard emergencies in a safe training environment. The Seafarers Training Center is the only civilian live-burn facility in the State of Hawaii.

All live-burn simulators and fire-fighting props are operational and in use.

Four (4) classrooms, including a lecture hall, have been renovated and equipped. They have been approved and certified for use by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Student capacity for classroom study is a minimum of 100 students per week, based on a Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., training regimen. To meet surge training needs this capacity can be expanded to 175 students per week by application of a surge training matrix that allows for expanded hours of operation and multiple-site training within the Center's campus.

The Seafarers Training Center has implemented a regular training schedule, based on commercial vessel operator demand, which is utilized by regional seafarers and maritime employers. Basic Safety Training (BST), Advanced Fire Fighting, and Water Survival (Lifeboatman) courses have been designed and approved for 40 hours and are presented during a one-week class, Monday through Friday. Merchant mariners who require these classes are required to spend the minimal amount of time away from work to meet these training requirements. Classes are available on demand and can be scheduled at short notice.

A training regimen has been designed and the U.S. Coast Guard has approved the curriculum, facilities and instructors to teach the following courses:

- Basic Safety Training (BST)
- Basic Fire Fighting
- Advanced Fire Fighting
- Water Survival (Lifeboatman)
- Crowd and Crisis Management

In addition, instructors have been certified to teach American Red Cross First Aid and CPR. As a result of this project The Seafarers Training Center can also employ a Damage Control Simulator to train mariners to respond to hull breaches in a vessel.

Building 46 served as housing for U.S. Navy personnel during the operation of the Barber's Point Naval Air Station. It remained unused and unoccupied for more than a year before this project began rehabilitation on the facility. The Hawaii Army National Guard



*Students and lecturer engage in a discussion of maritime work experience.*

removed the existing carpet throughout the building. The old carpet was worn, torn, stained and molding and presented the single most significant barrier to productive use of the building.

Project funds purchased floor tile, adhesive, paint and tools. Staff of the Seafarers Harry Lundeberg School of Seamanship installed floor tile throughout the building, painted the complete interior, and repaired plumbing facilities as needed. This work was done without cost of time or labor to the project.

The Hawaii Army National Guard repaired the air conditioning in the dormitory at no cost to the project.

A determination was made that, in order to reduce program operating costs, food service needs would be met by a contracted caterer. Consequently no project funds were expended to create food service facilities that were envisioned in the initial project proposal.

Project funds were used to purchase two (2) 15-passenger vans. These vans are used to transport students as needed.

The Seafarers Training Center has developed a training partnership with the Maritime Licensing Center. Through this partnership the students of the Seafarers Training Center use infrastructure of the Maritime Licensing Center for practical instruction in Water Survival (Lifeboatman) and students from the Maritime Licensing Center use the infrastructure of the Seafarers Training Center for Advanced Fire Fighting. This training partnership has eliminated the construction of multiple facilities by each entity and cooperative use of project and existing maritime training infrastructure.



*Campbell High School NJROTC cadets tour NCL America's PRIDE OF ALOHA as part of the training partnership developed with The Seafarers Training Center.*

The Seafarers Training Center has developed a training partnership with the Navy Junior ROTC program of the James Campbell High School. On a school semester basis students from the Junior ROTC program participate in practical maritime training exercises at the Seafarers Training Center. This partnership allows high school students to experience maritime emergency response in a safe environment. It also introduces many students to the potential of a career in the U.S. Merchant Marine.

The Seafarers Training Center is a working partner with the Hawaii Army National Guard. Although during most of the time of this project the members of the Hawaii Army Guard were deployed to Iraq, the partnership renewed and the Guard utilizes the Seafarers Training Center for appropriate

classroom and practical exercises.

In summary, this project to establish a permanent campus for the Seafarers Training Center has met or exceeded all proposal goals and expectations. And during the course of the project instruction proceeded without interruption. As a result, from its inception in 2000 until today, more than 3,200 students have participated in the maritime safety and educational training programs of The Seafarers Training Center.